

NATIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN
HERITAGE MONTH

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, each November, our nation recognizes the contributions of the First Americans during National Native American Heritage Month. Minnesota is home to eleven proud Ojibwe and Dakota nations, and those nations and their people are a vital part of our state's heritage and our future.

American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians are the source of America's first participatory democracy and the population with the highest rates of service in our nation's armed services. Their cultures and communities have endured despite centuries of violence, injustice, and discrimination. That legacy must never be buried or ignored, but I am committed to working with tribal leaders to move forward in a new era of respect and self-governance throughout Indian Country.

The nation-to-nation relationship between our federal government and the 567 diverse, federally recognized tribal nations across the country has been strengthened tremendously under President Obama. I am proud to have worked with the President and my colleagues in Congress to pass major legislation to better meet our federal trust responsibility, strengthen tribal self-governance, and support Native families, like the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, the Tribal Law and Order Act, and the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act.

Investing in the health, safety, and education of Native youth, in particular, must be a priority for Congress. Native American youth deserve the same opportunities to shape their futures and succeed as any other child in America. Earlier this month, tribal leaders and Native youth joined President Obama and senior officials from throughout his Administration at the 7th Annual White House Tribal Nations Conference. I was incredibly proud to see young people representing their Native nations and sitting with our President, sharing their priorities and discussing their future. Whether standing against racism in their schools, advocating for opportunities in their communities, or preserving their languages and cultures, the powerful voices and actions of Native youth are helping to build a brighter future for all young people in this country.

Yet even with the progress we have made, tremendous work remains to realize that future. As sovereign nations, tribal governments play an essential role in serving the needs of their tribal members and defending the rights of their Nations. We must follow through on our federal responsibility to Native Americans with greater and more meaningful consultation and with legislative action that supports tribal self-determination, governmental parity, and significant investments throughout Indian Country.

As we honor the heritage and resilience of our Native American brothers and sisters this month, we also commit to working together to build stronger communities and a stronger nation because when Indian Country is strong, America is strong.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS FOR
BOY SCOUT TROOP 16

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Boy Scout Troop 16, which will be celebrating its 100th Anniversary on November 28, 2015, at Genetti's Banquet Hall in Dickson City, Pennsylvania. Troop 16 has a long history of upholding the values of the Boy Scouts of America and serving its community with dignity and honor.

Established in 1915, Troop 16 was organized through the efforts of Pennsylvania Representative, John Scheuer. William Longcor served as the initial Scoutmaster of Troop 16. The Troop's first camping trip took place at Lake Ariel during the summer 1915 under the supervision of Scoutmaster Longcor and Assistant Scoutmaster Walter E. Mohr. The troop's inaugural banquet was held in December 1915, and the first Parents' night was in June 1916. The Troop completed its first Council Camp in 1919 at Bidwell's Pond.

Troop 16 has taken numerous camping expeditions over the years, including ones to Mountain Lake, Camp Grieser, Gettysburg, Camp Lackawanna, Washington D.C., Valley Forge, and Goose Pond. In the 1970s, the Troop participated in Scout Expositions at the Watres Armory in Scranton, with Troop 16 winning several awards. In 2008 and 2014, the Troop sent crews to High Adventure at the Florida Sea Base in the Florida Keys. Since its founding, Troop 16 has attended Summer Camp at Goose Pond and has the distinction of counting 238 Eagle Scouts as alumni.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Boy Scout Troop 16 as it celebrates a century of service. These scouts' and leaders' devotion to scouting has enriched the lives of many and has had a lasting, positive impact on their community. I wish the Troop the best as it continues to uphold the traditions of the Boy Scouts of America.

DR. HARRIET HALL

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Dr. Harriet Hall for receiving the West Chamber's 2015 Celebrate Women Award. This award celebrates local women leaders with drive, perseverance and service to their community.

Dr. Hall has made a significant contribution to the community through advocacy, passion and unwavering commitment to people with mental health disorders and their families. She has worked to reduce the stigma of mental illness, to bring the public's attention to urgent matters of mental health, and collaborated with government and business leaders to produce innovative changes for mental health care. Dr. Hall's contributions extend beyond

her work in the mental health field and with her help for some of the neediest portions of the community such as the homeless, indigent and families in turmoil.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Dr. Harriet Hall for receiving the 2015 Celebrate Women Award. Thank you for your leadership and service to the community.

HONORING TED "GUNNER"
OUSLEY

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I wish today to honor a man that many in my District know by only one name.

Ted Ousley—or simply "Gunner" as he is known to his many fans—is one of the most popular people in my District and a longtime personality with WIVK radio in Knoxville, Tennessee.

Each weekday from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. "Your Cowboy Pal" Gunner entertains listeners with his unique brand of East Tennessee charm, humor, and grace.

He loves his job, and you can tell when listening to his show. He once said that he was "living his dream" by being on the air with WIVK.

In 2003 and 2004, Gunner was voted the Best DJ by Metro Pulse readers and was a finalist for the Marconi Air Personality of the Year.

But Gunner is not just known for his entertainment. He is also a tireless champion of Veterans.

Following the September 11th terror attacks in 2001, Gunner started a segment on his show called "Voices from the Front" where he would connect families over the phone with their loved ones serving in the wars. It was hugely popular and emotional for him and his listeners.

In 2004, he traveled to Iraq, and upon his return led an effort to bring to the United States for treatment an 8-year-old suffering from a severe form of Spina Bifida.

In 2009, Gunner received the first annual Civilian Warrior Award for his work with the 844th Engineer Battalion.

East Tennessee is one of the most patriotic places in this Country. Each year, Gunner helps lead the Veterans Day parade in Knoxville, which is attended by many thousands of people.

In addition to his service to Veterans, Gunner finds the time to run two East Tennessee farms and serve on the Board of Directors of the East Tennessee Alzheimer's Association.

Mr. Speaker, Ted "Gunner" Ousley embodies the Volunteer spirit of East Tennessee.

His humility and dedication to those who serve will forever hold a place in our hearts, and I thank him for his dedication to this Country and wish him success as he continues to entertain us each day.

I also call his work with Veterans to the attention of my Colleagues and other readers in hopes that he will be an inspiration to many more.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES B. RENACCI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. RENACCI. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 636, I voted 'Nay' when I intended to vote 'Yea'.

SHARON TREFNY

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Sharon Trefny for receiving the West Chamber's 2015 Celebrate Women Award. This award celebrates local women leaders with drive, perseverance and service to their community.

Sharon has spent extensive time as a systems engineer, community organizer and project manager, working with both domestic and international partners. She helped establish the Native American Commission on Urban Affairs, the first of its kind in the country. Sharon also helped to create a Women's Commission in Los Angeles where the first U.S. rape hot-line was set up.

In 2000, Sharon became the First Lady of the Colorado School of Mines. In that position, she interacted with women leaders such as Jehan Sudat (the late Anwar Sadat's wife), Madeline Albright, Wu Yi (Vice Premier of China), Jill Biden, and a UN delegation of women from Afghanistan. Sharon used the insight she gained from these experiences to help connect women's leadership to the women on the School of Mines campus.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Sharon Trefny for receiving the 2015 Celebrate Women Award. Thank you for your leadership and service to the community.

RECOGNIZING CALVIN
FRAUENFELDER AND DUSTY
JOHNSON

HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Calvin Frauenfelder and Dusty Johnson for their hard work and dedication to the people of Colorado's Fourth District as interns in my Washington, DC office for the Fall 2015 session of Congress.

The work of this young man and woman has been exemplary and I know they both have bright futures. They served as tour guides, interacted with constituents, and learned a great deal about our nation's legislative process. I was glad to be able to offer this educational opportunity to these two and look forward to seeing them build their careers in public service.

Our interns have made plans to continue their work with various organizations in Washington and Colorado. I am certain they will succeed in their new roles and wish them all

the best in their future endeavors. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Calvin Frauenfelder and Dusty Johnson for their service this Fall.

RECOGNIZING CANDY ALCOTT

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise with Congressman MIKE THOMPSON to recognize Candy Alcott, an amazing Livermore resident whose acts of kindness are bringing joy to Lake County children devastated by the Valley Fire.

When the Valley Fire destroyed hundreds of homes earlier this year, leaving many families with nothing, Candy jumped into action. She wanted to make sure the children of Lake County were "not forgotten."

Candy drove from Livermore and brought donations. She gave away a few bikes that first day, but there were still many more kids in need. Candy said she would be back, and she has fulfilled that promise over and over again.

Thanks to Candy's tireless efforts, good Samaritans and generous businesses have donated hundreds of bikes. Now called the "Bike Angel," she has even created a group, Bike Angels United, to help continue this outpouring of love and support for the children of Lake County.

Candy said that the generosity people have shown in donating the bikes has been a "miracle." This miracle, though, only happened because of her caring, dedication, and energy.

We want to express our deepest appreciation for Candy's devotion to the children affected by the Valley Fire. What she has done is truly remarkable, and we wish her the very best as she continues her charitable work.

CELEBRATING THE AVON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ELIZABETH H. ESTY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Ms. ESTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the Avon Chamber of Commerce's 50th anniversary.

Today, we recognize the Avon Chamber of Commerce for serving as a tireless advocate for our local businesses and an essential resource for their leaders and employees. Over the past 50 years, the chamber has worked hard to create an environment that allows its members to flourish by providing advice, resources, and networking opportunities. Currently, the Avon Chamber of Commerce represents a diverse group of over 340 businesses—both large and small—from every industry.

We here in the State of Connecticut are proud of our highly-skilled workforce, and Avon is an ideal location for companies who want to take advantage of this strength. Organizations like the Avon Chamber of Commerce help businesses continue to grow, so that

Connecticut's economy is vibrant and competitive for years to come. The Farmington Valley owes much to the Avon Chamber, and Connecticut is a better state thanks to their advocacy. I look forward to continuing to work with the chamber as they continue to thrive and welcome more businesses into the region.

Congratulations to Executive Director Lisa Bohman, Board President John Shea, the Board of Directors, staff and members of the Avon Chamber of Commerce on its 50th anniversary.

JOAN SMITH

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Joan Smith for receiving the West Chamber's 2015 Celebrate Women Award. This award celebrates local women leaders with drive, perseverance and service to their community.

Joan began as a Parent Resource Counselor in 1992, but for the past 25 years has worked for Rocky Mountain Education Center at Red Rocks Community College. During her tenure, she wrote the first National Science Foundation Grants on behalf of the college both of which were funded and began the long and very successful relationship between NSF and Red Rocks Community College.

As director of the OSHA Institute at Red Rocks Community College, she became passionate in seeking solutions to the high fatality rate among oil and gas workers in the field. Joan worked nationally through the industry's STEPS Network to convene a committee of oil and gas professionals from across the country to develop safety training programs for workers. She has also developed relationships between the College and several international partners, including the countries of Jordan and Saudi Arabia. She worked with students, universities, and employers in Jordan to create the first Solar Energy Technician and Occupational Safety and Health Associates Degree programs through the Al Baqa Applied University.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Joan Smith for receiving the 2015 Celebrate Women Award. Thank you for your leadership and service to the community.

TRIBUTE TO THE CHINESE-AMERICAN PLANNING COUNCIL (CPC)

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Chinese-American Planning Council (CPC), which today celebrates 50 years of service to the Chinese-American, immigrant and low-income communities in New York City.

CPC was founded at the grassroots level and its roots are deep in New York's Chinese American community. In the mid-1960s, as immigration from Asia began steadily growing, CPC was launched and began counseling